## COLORADO MEDICAID ANNOUNCES BUY-IN PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DENVER – July 2, 2012 – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (Department) announced today that Coloradans can now apply for a new program called the Medicaid Buy-In Program for Children with Disabilities (Children's Buy-In). This program will allow families who previously earned too much to qualify for Medicaid to pay a monthly premium based on their income, and purchase Medicaid coverage for their child with a disability.

Eligibility for this program is limited to children under age 19, who have a qualifying disability, and whose adjusted family income is below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). For example, a family of four earning approximately \$5,700 a month after income adjustments may be eligible for the program. Click here for a chart of income guidelines.

"This program will help families with children with disabilities gain access to the coverage they need," said Susan E. Birch, executive director. "Often private insurance does not cover services critical for children with disabilities, or the benefit is so limited that the family reaches their yearly maximum in the first quarter of the year."

The Children's Buy-In program is funded by a hospital provider fee and federal matching funds and uses no Colorado general funds.

For more information on the Children's Buy-In <u>click here</u>, or contact our Customer Service Center at 303-866-3513 in the Denver metro area, or 800-221-3943 outside the metro area, or apply online at <u>Colorado.gov/PEAK</u>.

**About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing**: The department administers the Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for low-income Coloradans, families, children, pregnant women, the elderly and people with disabilities. The mission of the department is to improve access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans. For more information about the department, please visit Colorado.gov/hcpf.